IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

AUG

Group 2700

In re Patent Application of

NISHIUMI et al.

Serial No.

09/227,350

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Examiner:

OPERATING DEVICE AND IMAGE PROCESSING

SYSTEM USING SAME

August 4, 2000

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. One copy of each of these references is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

The Examiner is requested to initial the attached form PTO-1449 and to return a copy of the initialed document to the undersigned as an indication that the attached references have been considered and made of record.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection, but before payment of the issue fee.

The filing of an Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made [37 C.F.R. '1.97(g)], an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability or that no other material information exists. Further, the filing of an Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner [Commissioner's Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 12-25 at 25].

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By:

Joseph S. Presta Reg. No. 35,329

JSP: 71

1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor

Arlington, VA 22201-4714 Telephone: (703) 816-4000 Facsimile: (703) 816-4100